

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~The multi-stage filter according to claim 13. A multi-stage filter comprising an upstream prefilter element and a downstream main filter element, one of said elements including nanofibers, wherein said downstream main filter element has said nanofibers, and wherein said nanofibers have: a) a fiber diameter in the range 40 to 800 nm (nanometers); and b) a basis weight in the range 0.02 to 1.0 g/m² (grams per square meter),~~ wherein said main filter element comprises three sets of fibers, namely a first set comprising said nanofibers, and second and third sets of tribologically different fibers providing a triboelectric effect.

Claim 16 (original): The multi-stage filter according to claim 15 wherein said main filter element comprises two sheets comprising a pleated first sheet having fibers selected from the group consisting of cellulose fibers and synthetic fibers, and having said nanofibers, and a second sheet having said second and third sets of tribologically different fibers.

Claim 17 (original): The multi-stage filter according to claim 16 wherein said first sheet is between said pre-filter element and said second sheet.

Claim 18 (original): The multi-stage filter according to claim 16 wherein said first sheet comprises pleated first and second subsheets, said first subsheet having said fibers selected from said group consisting of cellulose fibers and synthetic fibers, said second subsheet having said nanofibers.

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~The multi-stage filter according to claim 13~~ A multi-stage filter comprising an upstream prefilter element and a downstream main filter element, one of said elements including nanofibers, wherein said downstream main filter element has said nanofibers, and wherein said nanofibers have: a) a fiber diameter in the range 40 to 800 nm (nanometers); and b) a basis weight in the range 0.02 to 1.0 g/m² (grams per square meter), and comprising first and second sets of said nanofibers, said first and second sets having tribologically different nanofibers providing a triboelectric effect.

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Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~The multi-stage filter according to claim 13~~ A multi-stage filter comprising an upstream prefilter element and a downstream main filter element, one of said elements including nanofibers, wherein said downstream main filter element has said nanofibers, and wherein said nanofibers have: a) a fiber diameter in the range 40 to 800 nm (nanometers); and b) a basis weight in the range 0.02 to 1.0 g/m² (grams per square meter), wherein said main filter element comprises four sets of fibers, namely a first set comprising said nanofibers, second and third sets of tribologically different fibers providing a triboelectric effect, and a fourth set of fibers selected from the group consisting of cellulose fibers and synthetic fibers and having a fiber diameter substantially greater than said nanofibers.

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Claims 21-26 (canceled)